

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed March 2, 2006, has been reviewed and carefully considered. Claims 1-8, 10, 12-28 and 30-35 have been amended. Claims 1-35 are pending in the application.

In paragraph 4 on page 2 of the Office Action, claims 1-35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by or, in the alternative under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Krum et al.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections, but in the interest of expediting prosecution have amended claims 1-8, 10, 12-28 and 30-35 to more particularly distinguish the claims over the cited reference.

Krum et al. teach a chassis for holding a plurality of hard disk carriers. The chassis includes a RAID controller to provide logical addresses for the plurality of hard disk provided by the hard disk carriers.

However, Krum et al. fail to suggest a hard disk carrier housing for use in a hard disk array enclosure and for holding multiple hard disk storage devices proximate to one another. Krum et al. also fail to suggest a hard disk carrier access device, disposed within the hard disk carrier housing, for structuring access to physical addresses of the multiple hard disk storage devices within the hard disk carrier housing and providing access to each of the multiple hard disk storage devices over one connection.

Krum et al. merely describes a conventional chassis that may hold multiple carriers having a signal hard disk storage device. Moreover, Krum et al. does not describe a hard disk carrier access device for structuring access to physical addresses of the multiple hard disk storage devices within the hard disk carrier housing. Because Krum et al. does even mention multiple hard disk storage devices within a single hard disk carrier housing, Krum does not even

contemplate the need for a hard disk carrier access device for structuring access to physical addresses of the multiple hard disk storage devices within the hard disk carrier housing.

Moreover, because only provides a chassis for holding carrier housing that contain only a single hard disk storage device, Krum et al. can only provide RAID configuration at the system level (chassis level). The RAID controller 30 of Krum et al. is connect to a host interface bus. Thus, the RAID controller 30 only provides system level RAID configuration.

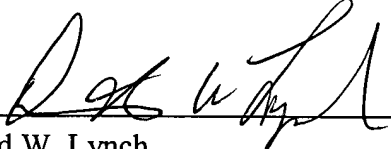
Accordingly, Krum et al. fail to disclose, teach or suggest the invention as described in the amended claims.

On the basis of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the claims are in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration of this application and its allowance are requested.

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Attorney for Applicant, David W. Lynch, at 423-757-0264.

Respectfully submitted,

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